

PROVIDING FOR THE CONVEYANCE OF CERTAIN LANDS BY THE
UNITED STATES TO THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

FEBRUARY 16, 1956.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and
ordered to be printed

Mr. ENGLE, from the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 6990]

The Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 6990) to provide for the conveyance of certain lands by the United States to the Board of National Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with amendments and recommend that the bill as amended to pass.

The amendment is as follows:

Page 1, line 6, after the words "United States" insert the words "and the Makah Indian Tribe".

EXPLANATION OF THE BILL

H. R. 6990, introduced by Congressman Westland, and as amended by the committee, authorizes and directs the conveyance by the Secretary of the Interior of a quitclaim deed to lot 5, block 20 of the Indian Village of Neah Bay, Wash., to the Board of Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America. The conveyance is to be without monetary consideration and will transfer all of the right, title, and interest of the United States and the Makah Indian Tribe to said Board of Missions.

The board occupied a nearby lot, apparently without tribal objection, from 1916 to 1934, and in consideration of its relinquishment of occupancy of that lot in 1934, was granted a revocable permit to use the lot here involved. A church and parsonage constructed on the land are still in regular use.

The Makah Tribal Council by resolution has approved this legislation and urges its enactment.

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The favorable report of the Secretary of the Interior dated December 20, 1955, is as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, D. C., December 20, 1955.

Hon. CLAIR ENGLE,

*Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
House of Representatives, Washington-25, D. C.*

MR DEAR MR. ENGLE: Your committee has requested a report on H. R. 6990, a bill to provide for the conveyance of certain lands by the United States to the Board of National Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

We recommend that the bill be enacted if it is amended as suggested below.

The bill authorizes and directs the Secretary of the Interior to convey by quitclaim deed to the Board of National Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America all of the right, title, and interest of the United States in lot 5, block 20 of the Indian Village of Neah Bay, Wash. The conveyance is to be without consideration.

The board occupied lot 3, block 24 in the Indian Village of Neah Bay from 1916 to 1934. We are, however, unable to locate any formal grant of authority for such occupancy. In consideration of the relinquishment of occupancy of this lot, the Secretary of the Interior on October 3, 1934, set aside lot 5, block 20 for temporary use and occupancy by the board. The Makah Tribal Council confirmed this use by issuing a revokable permit. A church and parsonage were constructed on the land and are still in regular use.

On September 8, 1955, the Makah Tribal Council adopted resolution No. 32 approving the conveyance of this lot to the Board of National Missions of the Presbyterian Church. Title to the land is in the United States in trust for the tribe.

The following amendment to the bill is suggested: On line 6 after "United States" insert "and the Makah Indian Tribe."

The Bureau of the Budget has advised us that there is no objection to the submission of this report.

Sincerely yours,

WESLEY A. D'EWART,
Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

The Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs recommends enactment of H. R. 6990, as amended.